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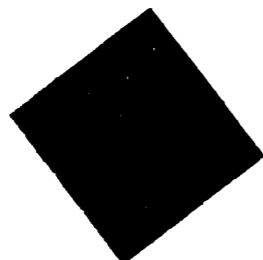
EASTERN

F.O.  
371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 1357



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Reference:-  
**FO**  
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E 1357  
13 1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 1357/1357/31

FROM

H M. Eyres

No.

Damascus

Dated

18  
26/11/47

Received in Registry

20 Jan 1947  
13 Feb 1947

Preservation of Palestine Lands

Recalls that Syrian Budget 1946 contained provision for allocation of £1,000,000 for redemption of land in Palestine. as money was not paid, further bill was passed on 22 Oct 47 providing payment of sum to 'Arab' Arab Budget. Further comments on Police Retention.

Last Paper.

(E 3846/2971/31)

(Minutes.)

References.

by v.c.o.  
Mr. B. J. May 4

H.B. 17/2

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

v. P.O. Feb. 24

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(Action completed.)

J.E.M.

(Index)

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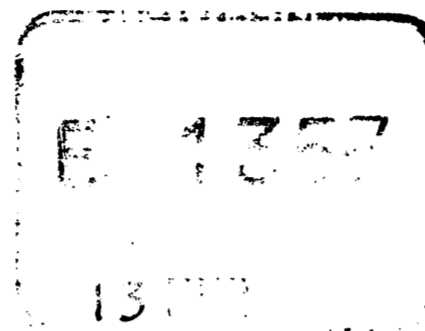
Next Paper.

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Reference:- FO 371 / 61899

No. 18  
26/11/47.



British Legation,  
DAMASCUS.

30th January, 1947.

Sir,

It will be recalled that the Syrian budget for 1946 contained a provision for the allocation of £S.1,000,000 for the redemption of land in Palestine. Since the money had not been paid out by the end of the year, a further bill was passed at a sitting of the Chamber on the 22nd January, authorising the payment of this sum to the Secretariat-General of the Arab League.

2. The passing of this bill was greeted with loud applause, and a number of deputies made speeches in its favour. Needless to say, the speakers, well-knowing that the sacrifice would not be required of them, offered their lives as well as their money for the salvation of Palestine. Demands were made that Great Britain and the United States of America should solve the Jewish problem by providing refuge for Jews in their own countries, and not by forcing them on to Palestine. It was urged that the Arab League should take active steps to combat the menace of Zionism, and not confine itself to resolutions.

3. In reply to the debate the Prime Minister, Jamil Mardam Bey, said that both the Syrian people and their Government were always prepared to make the greatest sacrifices for the deliverance of Palestine. He said that the unanimous decisions taken at the Conference at Eloudan provided that negotiations with the mandatory should be started in an endeavour to solve the Palestine question, and that should these negotiations fail, the Arab States would then submit the case of Palestine to the United Nations Organisation. Referring to the Conference in London, Jamil Bey emphasised that the Arab delegates would not accept any partition of Palestine, or the creation of a Jewish State, and that they were strongly opposed to the illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine. The Prime Minister ended his speech by saying that the Arab League had done its duty by Palestine in spite of many difficulties, but, should it be necessary, the Arabs would defend Palestine with their blood.

I am sending copies of this despatch to His Majesty's Representatives at Beirut, Cairo, Jerusalem, Bagdad and Jedda.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, M.P.,  
Foreign Office,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

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